



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES  
**JERUSALEM**

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

# WEEKLY MAILING

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## **Official Websites:**

<http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://arabic.jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://gaza.usvpp.gov>

<http://arabic.gaza.usvpp.gov>

## **Social Media:**

[www.facebook.com/UsConGenJerusalem](http://www.facebook.com/UsConGenJerusalem)

[www.twitter.com/USCGJerusalem](http://www.twitter.com/USCGJerusalem)

[www.youtube.com/UsConGenJerusalem](http://www.youtube.com/UsConGenJerusalem)

**To subscribe to this Weekly Mailing list,  
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[UsConGenJerusalem@state.gov](mailto:UsConGenJerusalem@state.gov)

**Thank You!**

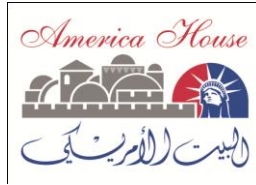
## **American Consul General Rubinstein Participates in ACCESS Graduation in Bethlehem**



Consul General Rubinstein: "To the students, I would like to say congratulations. I am proud of what you have accomplished in the ACCESS English Language Microscholarship Program. I know that you showed great dedication in the past year and a half by attending after-school English classes and the summer intensive English language course. Through the ACCESS program, we have gotten to know you, and we at the Consulate General feel that you are now a part of our extended network of Palestinian friends. I hope that this is just the beginning of the friendship we will share in the years to come."

## **شباب فلسطينيون يتميزون ببرنامج اللغة الإنجليزية**

القنصل العام روبنستين للخريجين: "انا اعلم أن دراسة اللغات الاجنبية ليس سهلا، وهي مهارة هامة تستطيعون الاستفادة منها حتى النهاية. وكما كانت قدرتي التكلم باللغة العربية قد ساعدتني للحصول على تجربة غنية وممتعة في حياتي، فقدرتكم على تكلم الانجليزية ستخلق العديد من الفرص لكم"



## America House in Jerusalem

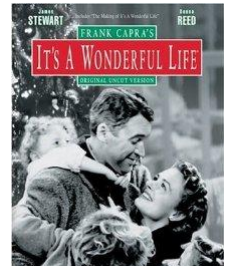
is pleased to invite you to the following upcoming programs in Jerusalem:

### American Classic Films Series Opening "It's a Wonderful Life"

Director: Frank Capra

December 8, 2011, 6:00 P.M.

America House, Al Zahara Street (across from Rockefeller Park)



*It's a Wonderful Life* is an [American holiday drama](#) produced and directed by legendary director [Frank Capra](#) and based on the short story "[The Greatest Gift](#)" written by [Philip Van Doren Stern](#). It is one of the most popular and heartwarming films ever made. Bring your family, enjoy some refreshments and this holiday classic!

### Women's Micro-Enterprise Bazaar and Fashion Show

December 15, 2011

Ambassador Hotel, Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem

**10:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.**

**Local entrepreneurs' wares available for purchase**

*4:00 PM*

*Local hand-made clothing and accessories fashion show*

Over 35 Palestinian micro-entrepreneurs from the West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem will be selling their wares during this 2<sup>nd</sup> annual event. Please come out and support these local enterprises.

Women artists, merchants, designers, and manufacturers of goods that include traditional Palestinian embroidery, hand-made soap, jewelry, foodstuffs, ceramics, and stone- and glass-ware will participate in the bazaar. Admission to the Bazaar is free, and open to the general public, from 10:00a.m to 7:00 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering at this event, please contact [America House](#).

To be added to America House's mailing list, please e-mail [JerusalemAmericaHouse@state.gov](mailto:JerusalemAmericaHouse@state.gov)

*America House is the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem's cultural center  
In East Jerusalem and was established in 2010.*



## U.S. Consulate General Sponsors PalConnect: The First-Ever Social Media Conference for Palestinians



The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem, in partnership with the Arab Media Internet Network (AMIN), sponsored PalConnect, the first-ever social media conference for Palestinians, which took place between December 4th and 6th, at the Ramallah Cultural Palace in Ramallah. The conference was funded by the U.S. Department of State's Fund for Innovation in Public Diplomacy, in addition to other sponsors. PalConnect was open to everyone and succeeded to provide a forum for Palestinians from the West Bank, Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip, representing various sectors of society, to gather together for the first time in one location to network and start a dialogue about the Palestinian social media landscape and the potentially important role social media can play in building and strengthening Palestinian civil society, economic, and educational competitiveness. The conference included presentations, panel discussions, and training sessions. Several local and international social media experts participated as keynote speakers and panelists at the conference. Live streaming of most conference sessions allowed Palestinian audiences that are unable to be physically present at the conference an opportunity to virtually "attend" the conference and benefit from the discussions. For more information visit the official PalConnect website or the U.S. Consulate General Facebook page.

[www.palconnect.ps](http://www.palconnect.ps)

[www.facebook.com/USConGenJerusalem](https://www.facebook.com/USConGenJerusalem)



## Legacy Jams with Audiences in Hebron and Jerusalem



The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem was pleased to present American hip hop group, Legacy, for a cultural exchange program that included workshops and live concert performances in the West Bank and Jerusalem December 1-3, 2011. Legacy's music about faith, love, struggle, and the pursuit of beauty in life and art, was performed for audiences in Hebron, Abu Deis and Jerusalem. Legacy's alternative hip hop sound is influenced by various genres of music including West African percussive music, house, jazz, and break-beat. Combining unique talents and broad experiences, Legacy breaks language and cultural barriers through music. Their visit is funded by *The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad*, and received special funding from the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem. More information about Legacy may be found on their website: <http://legacylive.tumblr.com/>

### فرقة الهيب هوب الأمريكية "ليجاسي" في القدس والضفة الغربية

قدمت القنصلية الأمريكية العامة في القدس فرقة الهيب هوب الأمريكية ليجاسي في برنامج تبادل ثقافي سيشمل ورشات عمل وعروض موسيقية حية في الضفة الغربية والقدس وذلك في الفترة ما بين ١-٣ كانون الأول ٢٠١١. تركز موسيقى فرقة الليجاسي على الإيمان والحب والصراع والسعي وراء الجمال في الحياة والفن. و تتأثر موسيقاهم بعدة ألوان موسيقية تشمل الموسيقى الايقاعية المعروفة بغرب افريقيا والهوس والجاز والبريك بيت. ودمج المواهب الفريدة والخبرات الواسعة تكسر فرقة ليجاسي حاجز اللغة والثقافة عبر الموسيقى. وقد مولت زيارتهم عبر "الريذم رود: الموسيقى الأمريكية خارج امريكا" وقد حصلت على تمويل خاص من القنصلية الأمريكية العامة في القدس. وقد احييت عروض في الخليل وابوديس والقدس. للمزيد من المعلومات عن فرقة ليجاسي الرجاء زيارة موقعهم الالكتروني على العنوان التالي: <http://com.tumblr.legacylive/>



**"Doors to Diplomacy" 2012 International Web Project Competition for Middle and High School Students:**

The Department of State and the Global SchoolNet Foundation announce the 2012 "Doors to Diplomacy" award competition, recognizing the student-created Global SchoolNet Web projects from around the globe that best teach others about the importance of international affairs and diplomacy.

To qualify, middle school and high school students will work in small teams with teacher-coaches. **Projects must be completed by March 15, 2012**, and winners will be announced in May 2012. Every team that enters a project will receive a special "Doors to Diplomacy" certificate recognizing their achievement. Each student member of the two winning teams – one American and one international – will also receive a \$2,000 scholarship and the winning coaches' schools will each receive a \$500 cash award.

**Deadline: March 15, 2012.**

For a complete description of the competition and information about eligibility and judging criteria, please visit <http://globalschoolnet.org/gsndoors/>. For more information, contact Dr. Yvonne Marie Andres of Global SchoolNet by phone at (760) 635-0001 or by e-mail at [diplomacy@globalschoolnet.org](mailto:diplomacy@globalschoolnet.org) or Wanda Ramsey of the Department of State by e-mail at [RamseyWC@state.gov](mailto:RamseyWC@state.gov).

**MEPI Information Technology (IT) Partnership Program**

The Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) announces the launch of the first-ever Information Technology (IT) Program that seeks to link MEPI grantees with major IT corporations. Through this new partnership, local NGOs will be able to access the latest computer software, hardware, and related training to improve the effectiveness of their projects, build organizational capacity, and assist with cementing the long-term sustainability of their work. For more information, please contact us at [mepi-it-partnerships@state.gov](mailto:mepi-it-partnerships@state.gov)

## **IMPORTANT CHANGES TO VISA APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

On December 12, 2011, the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem will implement new visa application and appointment procedures. The new system will make it quicker and cheaper to apply for a U.S. non-immigrant visa. Applicants will no longer need to pay one fee to obtain information and schedule an appointment, another fee to apply for the visa, and a third fee for courier pass back service. By paying only the current machine-readable visa (MRV) application fee determined by visa classification, the following services will be provided to visa applicants:

- MRV fee collection, either by phone, online, or at any branch of the Israeli Postal Bank or Bank of Palestine. Applicants can pay using cash or credit card.
- Scheduling of visa appointments by telephone 02-5677833 or through the online appointment website: <http://Jerusalem.usvisa-info.com>. There is no need to purchase a pin number.
- Information on general visa inquiries either by phone or online.
- Courier services for applicants, who need to submit additional documents to the Consulate after their interviews.
- Choice of passport delivery options for approved visa applicants, including home delivery, at no additional cost to the visa applicant.

### **تغييرات مهمة على الاجرات المتعلقة في طرق تقديم التأشيرة السياحية الى الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية**

ابتداءً من تاريخ ٢٠١١ ١٢ ١٢ ستقوم القنصلية الامريكية في القدس بأدخال بعض التغييرات المتعلقة في تقديم التأشيرة السياحية للولايات المتحدة ونظام تحديد المواعيد. علماً بأن هذا النظام الجديد سيكون أسهل وأوفر على المواطنين الذين ينوون تقديم تأشيرة الدخول لهدف الزيارة.

وبهذا النظام لن يضطر مقدمي الطلبات الى : دفع أية رسوم منفصلة من أجل تحديد المواعيد والحصول على المعلومات العامة التي تتعلق في عملية تقديم الطلبات ،أو دفع قيمة مالية أخرى تتعلق برسوم الفيزا ١ ،أو دفع أية رسوم من أجل خدمة التوصيل.

ومن خلال هذا النظام الجديد سيتوجب على مقدمي الطلبات في دفع رسوم الفيزا المتداول به حسب نوع التأشيرة المقدم اليها و سيحصل مقدمي الطلبات على الخدمات التالية:

- رسوم الفيزا ستدفع عن طريق الخطوط الهاتفية مباشرة أو عن طريق الانترنت أو من خلال احدى فروع بنك ألبريد داخل اسرائيل أو من احدى فروع بنك فلسطين في الضفة و،القطاع. أو عن طريق بطاقات الائتمان .

- سيتمكن مقدمي الطلبات بتحديد المواعيد من خلال الرقم التالي ٠٢-٥٦٧٧٨٣٣ أو من خلال الموقع الإلكتروني <http://usvisa.Jerusalem.com.info> ولن يكون هنالك ضرورة الى شراء الرقم التعريفي الشخصي الخاص بتحديد المواعيد.

- خدمة معلوماتية حول التأشيرات السياحية عن طريق الهاتف او الشبكة العنكبوتية.

- خدمة التوصيل الى القنصلية لمقدمي الطلبات الذين يحتاجون الى تقديم وثائق اضافية بعد مقابلاتهم .

- اختيار تسليم جوازات السفر للمقدمين الذين تم الموافقة على طلب التأشيرة الخاصة بهم بما في ذلك خدمات التوصيل الى البيت دون اي تكلفة اضافية

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## International and Regional News

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[White House on Iran's Blockage of Virtual Embassy Tehran](#)

[بيان للخارجية الأميركية حول افتتاح سفارة افتراضية  
لأميركا في طهران](#)

[Clinton's Address in Geneva on International Human Rights Day](#)

[تصريحات وزيرة الخارجية كلينتون خلال اجتماعها مع  
المجلس الوطني السوري](#)

[Secretary Clinton at Meeting with Syrian National Council](#)

[بيان من وزارة الخارجية عن عودة السفير فورد إلى سورية](#)

[State Department Officials' Briefing on Clinton Meeting on Syria](#)

[كلمة مساعد وزير المالية غلايسر حول الربيع العربي،  
والأدوات المالية، والأمن](#)

[White House Statement on Return of Ambassador Ford to Syria](#)

[وزارة الدفاع الأميركية تتعاون مع مؤسسات عسكرية في  
دول العالم لمكافحة الإرهاب](#)

[Treasury's Glaser on Arab Spring, Financial Tools and Security](#)

[Clinton on 60th Anniversary of Refugee Convention](#)

[U.S. Salutes Work of U.N. Refugee Agency](#)

[Biden: Entrepreneurship Requires Free Speech, Free Thinking](#)

[Defense Department Working with World Militaries to Fight AIDS](#)

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*America House,*

U.S. Consulate General, Jerusalem

Is pleased to invite you to a

**Women's Micro-Enterprise  
Arts and Crafts Bazaar  
*and fashion show***

December 15, 2011

10:00 A.M.—7:00 P.M.

Local entrepreneurs wares available  
for purchase

*4:00 P.M.*

*Local hand-made clothing and accessories  
fashion show  
Cash sales only*

**Ambassador Hotel  
Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem**

For more information, please e-mail:  
[jerusalemamerica@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemamerica@state.gov)



This event is sponsored by America House,  
the cultural center of the  
U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem and the  
Consulate's Public Affairs Office

